

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for configuring a remote control device, comprising:

storing a sequence of activations of keys of the remote control device;

5 searching the stored sequence to select one or more sequence subsets;

presenting the selected sequence subsets to a user; and

allowing a user to assign one of the selected sequence subsets to an activity key

whereby, in response to a subsequent activation of the activity key, the remote control performs actions in accordance with assigned, selected sequence subset.

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2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the sequence subsets are selected as a function of their frequency of occurrence within the stored sequence.

3. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the selected sequence subsets include at

15 least a minimum number of activations of keys.

4. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the selected sequence subsets have at least a minimum number of occurrences within the stored sequence.

20 5. The method as recited in claim 3, wherein the minimum number of activations of keys is user definable.

6. The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the minimum number of occurrences is user definable.

7. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein presenting the selected sequence subsets  
5 includes displaying for each selected sequence subset the activations of keys that  
comprise the selected sequence subset.

8. The method as recited in claim 7, further comprising accepting user input to modify a  
displayed selected sequence subset.

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9. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the modification comprises changing the  
order of the activations of keys that comprises a selected sequence subset.

10. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the modification comprises removing an  
15 activation of a key included in a selected sequence subset.

11. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the modification comprises adding an  
activation of a key to a selected sequence subset.

20 12. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of storing the sequence of  
activations of keys further includes the step of first filtering said key activations in order  
to exclude certain functions.

13. A method for configuring a remote control device, comprising:

storing a sequence of activations of keys of the remote control device;

accepting user input representative of one or more activations of keys of the remote control device;

5 searching the stored sequence to select one or more sequence subsets that include the activations of keys represented by the user input;

presenting the selected sequence subsets to a user; and

allowing a user to assign one of the selected sequence subsets to an activity key whereby, in response to a subsequent activation of the activity key, the remote control

10 performs actions in accordance with assigned, selected sequence subset.

14. The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the sequence subsets are selected as a function of their frequency of occurrence within the stored sequence.

15 15. The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the selected sequence subsets include at least a minimum number of activations of keys.

16. The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the selected sequence subsets have at least a minimum number of occurrences within the stored sequence.

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17. The method as recited in claim 15, wherein the minimum number of activations of keys is user definable.

18. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the minimum number of occurrences is user definable.

19. The method as recited in claim 13, wherein presenting the selected sequence subsets  
5 includes displaying for each selected sequence subset the activations of keys that  
comprise the selected sequence subset.

20. The method as recited in claim 19, further comprising accepting user input to modify  
a displayed selected sequence subset.

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21. The method as recited in claim 20, wherein the modification comprises changing the  
order of the activations of keys that comprises a selected sequence subset.

22. The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the modification comprises removing an  
15 activation of a key included in a selected sequence subset.

23. The method as recited in claim 20, wherein the modification comprises adding an  
activation of a key to a selected sequence subset.

20 24. The method as recited in claim 13, wherein storing the sequence of activations of  
keys further includes filtering said key activations in order to exclude certain functions.

25. A readable media having instructions for configuring a remote control device, the instructions performing steps comprising:

storing a sequence of activations of keys of the remote control device;

searching the stored sequence to select one or more sequence subsets;

5 presenting the selected sequence subsets to a user; and

allowing a user to assign one of the selected sequence subsets to an activity key

whereby, in response to a subsequent activation of the activity key, the remote control performs actions in accordance with assigned, selected sequence subset.

10 26. The readable media as recited in claim 25, wherein the sequence subsets are selected as a function of their frequency of occurrence within the stored sequence.

27. The readable media as recited in claim 26, wherein the selected sequence subsets include at least a minimum number of activations of keys.

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28. The readable media as recited in claim 26, wherein the selected sequence subsets have at least a minimum number of occurrences within the stored sequence.

29. The readable media as recited in claim 27, wherein the minimum number of  
20 activations of keys is user definable.

30. The readable media as recited in claim 28, wherein the minimum number of occurrences is user definable.

31. The readable media as recited in claim 25, wherein presenting the selected sequence subsets includes displaying for each selected sequence subset the activations of keys that comprise the selected sequence subset.

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32. The readable media as recited in claim 31, wherein the instructions further provide for accepting user input to modify a displayed selected sequence subset.

33. The readable media as recited in claim 32, wherein the modification comprises  
10 changing the order of the activations of keys that comprises a selected sequence subset.

34. The readable media as recited in claim 32, wherein the modification comprises removing an activation of a key included in a selected sequence subset.

15 35. The readable media as recited in claim 32, wherein the modification comprises adding an activation of a key to a selected sequence subset.

36. The readable media as recited in claim 25, wherein the storing the sequence of activations of keys further includes filtering said key activations in order to exclude  
20 certain functions.